



Compagnie des Guides de Chamonix

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HIKING - BEST OF CHAMONIX

Duration: 5 days

Level: ▲▲▲▲▲

Price from: 670 €

Light day packing, optimal guiding service (maximum of 8 hikers per guide), and a beautiful hotel in the city center of Chamonix are only a few great advantages this trip offers. Discover five amazing day-hikes out of the Chamonix valley, and enjoy the beauty of mountain landscapes in the Mont-Blanc region.

Group transfers, luggage transportation, lifts and lunches are taken care of by the mountain leader. You stay in a hotel in the city centre of Chamonix. Bring just the hiking necessary and fully enjoy the hike!

ITINERARY

Day 1 : Mer de Glace - Aiguille du Midi

Starting from Chamonix we will use the famous little rack railway of Montenvers above the Mer de glace (Sea of Ice). We reach the historical mountain site of Montenvers, from where we penetrate into the glacier and visit the ice-cave. We continue our visit with the crystal gallery, and the recently opened and very modern glacier exhibition. We start our hike on the beautiful northern "balcony" traverse until the plan de l'Aiguille. The cable car ride us up to the 3 842m of the Aiguille du Midi. The terraces of the site and its "Step into the void" offer you a 360° panorama over the Alps range. After our visit we will use the cable car to ride down to Chamonix.

Elevation gain and loss : 330m - 1 085ft.

Day 2 : The Saxe mountain

After a short minivan ride to the town of Courmayeur, Italy, we hike from the upper Villair hamlet in the direction of the Bertone hut. Mont de la Saxe is an incredible belvedere to admire the steepest peaks of the Mont Blanc massif while we enjoy an extra-long lunch-break. The hut makes it hard to resist the call of a real Italian "cappuccino".

Elevation gain and loss : 700m - 2 300 ft.

Day 3 : The Loriaz alpine pastures

From the village of Vallorcine, we gently head towards the Loriaz cattle grazing area. Just a couple hundred feet before we reach our goal, a fantastic panoramic view over the Mont-Blanc range, nearby peaks and the Aiguilles Rouges range leaves us speechless. The descent follows a different route, towards and along the Bérard creek.

Elevation gain and loss : 650m - 2 130 ft.

Day 4 : Aiguillette des Houches

Back on the French side of the Mont-Blanc range, we start our hike from the hamlet of La Flatière and start our ascent to Aiguillette des Houches (7 500ft). From the top we can enjoy a 360° panoramic view. The scenery over the top of Europe is just breathtaking! Mont Blanc seems to be at an arm's reach...

Elevation gain and loss : 1 000m- 3 280 ft.

Day 5 : Cheserys Lakes - Lac Blanc

The hike starts from Col des Montets, deep into the wildlife sanctuary of the Aiguilles Rouges. We hike up to the Cheserys Lakes, a photographer's favorite shooting area! If we feel like it, we can reach the magical site of Lac Blanc, "the" place to be for a picnic. And to crown it all, we may come across a group of ibexes on the way down...

Elevation gain : 900m - 2 950ft - elevation loss : 3 610 ft.

The guide may have to adapt the route to weather conditions and/or to group physical and/or technical ability.

GROUP BOOKING

Group session associates several people who don't know each other. It allows for a planned program to benefit

from an attractive price on fixed dates. This formula is ideal for people looking for the friendliness of a group.

Date 2020 : From Monday to Friday

- From June 15th to June 19th
- From July 20th to July 24th
- From September 7th to September 11th

Price 2020 : 670€ per person based on minimum of 5 participants.

Included in the package:

- The organization and supervision of each tour by state qualified trekking guide
- Bed and breakfast accommodation at la Folie Douce Hotels in the city center of Chamonix
- The picnic lunches
- Lift passes
- Transfers throughout the trek

Not included:

- Drinks and personal expenditure (souvenirs...)
- Diner from day 1 to day 6
- Repatriation insurance (mandatory)

FURTHER INFORMATION

Rendez-vous : meet at 8.30 am in front of the Compagnie des Guides de Chamonix on Day 1.

Ability level : 2/5 - the Best-of Chamonix hiking trip is for any fit people. A minimum of 400m (1350ft) vertical gain and about 4 to 6 hours of hiking daily. Hiking on comfortable trails without specific difficulty. We carry a light backpack for the day hike. This program is ideal to experience multiday hike. For active people, from 9 years old and over, with some hiking experience on mountain trails.

Guiding policy : by a state qualified trekking guide with a maximum of 8 people in the group. The Compagnie des Guides de Chamonix's guiding policy is one of the strictest in the mountain guiding business. It guarantees the most balanced groups as possible as well as high-quality personalised advice.
Registration possible from 16 years old. No booking accepted in our scheduled groups for people under the age of 18 without a legal guardian.

Accommodation :

- During the trip : 4 nights in 2 star hotel (twin and double room)*.

* *For people signing up alone, we cannot guarantee that you will share your room with a person of the same gender.*

- Before & after the trip : we have some hotel partners in Chamonix with special prices for our customers. If you want to receive information just ask Anaïs.

Documentation :

-Participants must have an insurance with repatriation cover. Cancellation insurance is highly recommended. You can take out insurance offering both of these types of cover when you sign up.

-Participants must also take valid ID with them.

Organisation : You are welcome to come and meet your guide the evening before at our office at 6 pm.

EQUIPMENT

Hiking boots

- Ankle supporting boots with notched technical rubber sole (i.e. VIBRAM). We strongly recommend wearing new boots to break them in before the hike.
- To avoid blisters, try rubbing baby talc on dry feet before using boots (sprinkling talc inside boot works too)

Back-pack

- Minimum size recommended 30 L (bigger is better than too small).
- Take out lunch should still fit after packing for the day.
- Bad weather precaution: pack covers are great to protect pack from rain or snow. We also recommend packing your belongings in a large and solid plastic bag (i.e. garbage bag) for a better protection in case of heavy rainfall.

Clothing

Avoid using cotton underwear. Compared to technical synthetic material, it is heavier and it dries slowly. Wool is

also getting popular amongst sportswear brands. Synthetic and wool are warmer; they dry fast, and allow you to pack light.

DAILY NEEDS

- 1 long-sleeve shirt + 1 Tshirt (both synthetic)
- 1 polar fleece + 1 light down jacket (or a second fleece)
- 1 pair of shorts + 1 pair of hiking pants
- 1 pair of synthetic hiking socks
- 1 Gore-tex jacket (waterproof windbreaker)
- 1 poncho (large rain cover that fits over pack) or 1 back pack cover
- 1 pair of rain pants (although light Gore-tex pants are expensive, other types of light rain pants work too)
- 1 water bottle (1.5 quart to 2 quarts minimum)
- 1 pocket knife + 1 "spork"
- Sun hat or ball cap, sunscreen, sunglasses, lip protection
- 1 warm hat, a pair of gloves
- 1 pair of telescopic poles

FOR THE ENTIRE HIKE

- Change of clothes : (prefer synthetic)
- 1 pair of long underwear (synthetic)
- Personal first aid kit **
- 1 pair of comfortable shoes for the evening
- Optional: low gaiters (for early season hiking), camera, binoculars, umbrella etc ...
- ID card or valid passport + small change/bills for personal expenses

** Elastoplast (stretchable strapping tape), band-aids, second skin, medicine for common aches and pains (diarrhea, headaches, sore throat...) Don't forget to bring your personal prescription treatment if you have one. Mountain leaders also carry a complete first aid kit. Remember that packing light is essential.

PRIVATE BOOKING

You are a private group, you can ask for a customized trip.

ADVANTAGES :

- Exclusive guide

A more individualized relationship between your group and the professional.

- Choose your date of departure

You can choose your date of departure within the limit of the hut availabilities.

- Flexibility all along the trip

Depending on weather conditions, your level and your expectations, the guide can suggest you some different options of itinerary.

For any further information, please contact **Anais** : Tel : +33 4 50 53 92 78 or Email : anais@chamonix-guides.com

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